Statement

Details of Pending Applications

(a) Income Tax Settlement Commission

Name of the Bench	Applications pending for admission as on 31.3.2007	Applications pending for settlement as on 31.3.2007
Delhi	486	1103
Mumbai	203	738
Kolkata	128	311
Chennai	63	285
TOTAL:	880	2437

(b) Customs and Central Excise Settlement Commission

Name of the Bench	Applications pending for admission as on 31.3.2007	Applications pending for settlement as on 31.3.2007
Delhi	189	145
Mumbai	452	96
Kolkata	43	20
Chennai	170	79
TOTAL:	854	340

Clearing of backlog vacancies for SCs/STs

4364. SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether it is fact that DoPT had directed all Insurance Corporations to clear backlog vacancies for SCs/STs both in promotions and recruitment during August, 2004;

(b) if so, what action were taken by the Corporations to fill up these backlog vacancies, as far as the Oriental Insurance Company Ltd. is concerned; and

(c) what is the position of backlog vacancies for SCs/STs in promotion, direct recruitment as on 31st March, 2007?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A country-wide special drive was conducted to fill up backlog vacancies by all the Public Sector Insurance Companies including the Oriental Insurance Company Limited. As a result 754 vacancies were filled up out of the total backlog of 765 vacancies.

(c) Status of backlog vacancies for SCs/STs in promotion and direct recruitment as on 31.03.2007 is given below:

	SC	ST	Total
Promotion	1	8	9
Direct	-	2	2
TOTAL:	1	10	11

Objections of RBI to Vodafone-Hutch Phone deal

4365. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what exactly are the objections of RBI to the Vodafone-Hutch phone deal;

(b) whether it is a fact that Reserve Bank of India's own policies and lax administration and confusion of FDI had led to a near monopoly in mobile phone sector.

(c) what steps will RBI take to reduce monopolies in Telecom sector by companies consolidating their market share through the FDI route; and

(d) the steps proposed to review policies which create price fixing tendencies and excessive profits for two or three companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) Foreign Investment Promotion Board has since approved the application of Vodafone International Holdings, B.V.,